

2009 TechNet Conference for North Texas Libraries

Thursday, May 7, 2009 at the Lockheed Martin Recreation Area in southwest Fort Worth

Technology Is the Answer! Helping Libraries & Patrons Meet Today's Challenges

* Key to Audience Notes:

LIBRARY TYPE: Academic; Public; School

FOCUS: ■ Adult Reference; ■ Youth/Teen Reference; ■ Technical Services; ■ Administration;
■ Program Planning; ■ Circulation Services; ■ Outreach & Marketing; ■ IT

TECHNOLOGY KNOWLEDGE LEVEL: Introductory; Basic; Techie

Keynote Session

Government Mandates for E-Government & Accessibility: Changing How Libraries Serve Individuals

EVERYONE

Technology, ever-changing demographics & today's economy are forcing libraries & government agencies to review, reconsider & often change the ways they serve their communities. Portable devices are literally putting online services in the hands of many individuals. The prevailing mentality is that everything is online, & therefore you should be able to conduct all your research from the comfort of your home or office. Yet there are still those who need the library in order to access online services, either due to their economic situation or their limited knowledge of new technology & how to use it. Libraries are being pressed to bridge this digital & economic divide by offering services using all the newest technological gadgetry while still supplying free access to computers & computer education classes. Now, more than ever, libraries are facing complex challenges in maintaining services & changing lives.

Suzanne Sears has worked with government information reference for 25 years. She has presented multiple times on e-government resources for public, academic & school libraries. In 2003 she received the first ever Depository Library of the Year award as depository coordinator for the Tulsa City-County Library System.

Break-Out Sessions

"23 Things" – Learning More about Web 2.0; Encouraging Your Staff & Colleagues to Learn Web 2.0

EVERYONE

Interested in experimenting & playing with Library 2.0/Web 2.0 tools? Then join in the 23 things

experience! This session will kick off the NTLP-sponsored 23 Things Library 2.0 learning experience & will also cover how to set up a 23 Things learning experience for your own library, faculty or other group. NTLP's 23 Things is a free, 10-week, hands-on learning experience for anyone who attends today's conference & for library staff at all libraries in the 20-county area served by North Texas Library Partners. To participate, visit <http://northtexas23.blogspot.com/>.

[Jeff Bond](#), the Science Reference Librarian at Texas Christian University, helped to lead the 23 Things learning experience at TCU last spring.

AT@Your Fingertips: Accessibility Features Already Available on Windows XP & Vista

A, P, S  I

This session will walk attendees through programs in Windows XP & Vista which make most library PCs more universally accessible.

Under the AmeriCorps ASSET program, [Richard-Michael Manuel](#) serves as AT Navigator for Easter Seals of North Texas. The program has trained him to help others understand AT, whether for personal use or to share that knowledge with those who work with the public.

AT through Z: Assistive Technology Basics

A, P, S  I

This session will provide a brief overview of Assistive Technology (AT) categories & of methods for matching a patron with AT which is appropriate for him/her.

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Beyond Print: Using the DAISY Digital Standard to Meet ADA Mandates for Effective Communication

A, P, S  B

Digital formats influenced by the DAISY (Digital Accessible Information SYSTEM ANSI/NISO Z39.86-2005) Standard are replacing analog formats for established providers of alternate formats for people with disabilities, such as the National Library Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped & Recordings for the Blind & Dyslexic. Alternate formats are one solution prescribed by the Americans with Disabilities Act to meet requirements for providing "effective communication" for people with disabilities. DAISY is also an international standard which is enjoying rapid adoption & implementation worldwide. The implications for library services will be discussed, & resources on DAISY & other sources for materials in alternate formats will be provided.

[Dr. Mary Barnett](#) is an independent librarian/consultant and a member of NTLP's Accessibility Advisory Council. She has worked at the Houston Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) program, which includes the Americans with Disabilities Act Southwest Disability & Business Technical Assistance Center & has made presentations on the Americans with Disabilities Act to national, regional & local organizations. She spoke on the implications of the DAISY.(ANSI/NISO Z39.86-2005) Standard for library operations at the 2008 national Accessing Higher Ground conference in Boulder, CO.

E-Government in Practice: How Do I Become a Government Expert Overnight?

A, P, S  I

Front line reference staff, in all types of libraries, are being asked to assist patrons with E-Government services. Navigating the confusing & often cumbersome government websites can be difficult even for someone trained in government information resources. This session will provide you with some core reference tips & tricks for navigating government websites & related E-Government services.

[Suzanne Sears](#) has worked with government information reference for 25 years. She has presented multiple times on e-government resources for public, academic & school libraries. In 2003 she received the first ever Depository Library of the Year award as depository coordinator for the Tulsa City-County Library System.

E-Government: What Is It, & How Does It Affect Me?

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What exactly is E-Government, & why should I care about it? This session will provide an overview of E-Government laws, statistics & resources. It isn't just a problem for public libraries anymore. Learn how this unfunded mandate affects all types of libraries & librarians.

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Ensuring Universal Access to Computer-Based Library Resources

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Can people with disabilities use your library's computer-based resources effectively? What are the access issues to those resources, including websites? Software & web applications provide flexibility in information presentation. Learn how people with disabilities access electronic information & how you can ensure that everyone has maximum access to your library's website & other computer-based resources.

[Sharron Rush](#) is Co-Founder & Executive Director of Knowbility.org, a nonprofit organization that grew from the first Accessibility Internet Rally (AIR) in Austin in 1998. Sharron leads the effort to replicate the AIR program in cities throughout the country. Because of AIR, professional Web developers from hundreds of state agencies & technology companies have learned about the benefits, tools & techniques of accessible Web design. In addition to improving the accessibility of their own work, AIR volunteers use their accessible Web design skills to create sites for more than 500 nonprofit groups, affecting the lives of hundreds of thousands of individuals.

Going Evergreen: The North Texas Library Consortium Process

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The North Texas Library Consortium is a multi-phase project undertaken by NTRLIS & several of its member libraries to enable the participating libraries to share resources more easily. The group uses Evergreen, an open-source integrated library system. This presentation will provide an overview of the Consortium, explaining how it developed, the consortium process, the benefits of participation & the group's vision for the future.

In addition to serving as president of the North Texas Library Consortium & a founding member of the consortium, [Cecilia Hurt Barham](#) is Director of the Decatur Public Library.

IM Reference: Bring It to Your Library!

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If you are interested in learning how to start an Instant Message (IM) reference service at your library, be sure not to miss this session. Adding an IM reference service can easily complement the other reference services you are already offering. The presenter will describe how Texas Christian University started IM reference, & will help you get started with IM reference for your library.

[Jeff Bond](#) is the Science Reference Librarian at the Texas Christian University Library, where he has been since 2007. He administers the Instant Message reference service at the TCU Library.

More Open Source Options

A, P, S  I, B, T

Evergreen, Koha & other open source ILSs are catching the attention of the library world. There are many other free, open source products beyond ILSs that may be useful to libraries, museums & archives, as well. In this session we will explore the wide world of open source products which can transform library technology plans.

[Jesse Ephraim](#), Youth Services Librarian at Southlake Public Library, is a former professional programmer & developer. He began doing professional Internet development in the early 90s, prior to the invention of the World Wide Web, & has continued to do so as a librarian.

Now Over to You: Lessons Learned in an Online Meeting

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This review of free – or at least very inexpensive – online meeting software currently available will include tips on how to make such meetings effective & how to make participation in online meetings easier.

[Beth Avery](#), Department Head – Research & Instructional Services at UNT Libraries & [Shaun Seibel](#), Library Specialist III – Discovery Park Library at UNT, have led & hosted several online meetings using various web-based meeting platforms & have participated in many more. They prepared this presentation using online meeting software.

On the Horizon: Web 3.0 & More

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Still getting used to Web 2.0? Believe it or not, Web 3.0 is gearing up to transform our Internet interactions even more! In this session we will look at the Semantic Web & other visions for Web 3.0, & see how they are already being implemented.

[Jesse Ephraim](#), Youth Services Librarian at Southlake Public Library, is a former professional programmer & developer. He began doing professional Internet development in the early 90s, prior to the invention of the World Wide Web, & has continued to do so as a librarian.

Show Me & Tell Me: Creating Accessible Tutorials for Patrons & Staff Using Camtasia

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Through this demonstration of Camtasia screen-recording software, attendees will become familiar with how to create a recording (a.k.a “screencast”) of their computer desktop, save that recording, & then edit it — adding audio, captioning, highlighting & pointers, & using tools such as pan & zoom — to make accessible tutorials for staff & patrons.

After a year of using Camtasia to create screen recordings for presentations, Weatherford Public Library Assistant Director [Chris Accardo](#) began exploring the software’s use in developing tutorials for patrons & staff. In his spare work time – between creating presentations on various technology topics for NTL, the Texas Library Association & the Polaris User’s Group, he has been known to help assemble library consortia from scratch while convincing his library staff that he can repair a malfunctioning computer simply by waving his hand over it. He dreams in SQL.

The Social Web: Why It Matters to Librarians

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In the tangled skein that is the World Wide Web, integrating viable applications to better reach your community can be a taxing effort. Discussion will cover different technologies, such as Twitter, Flickr, RSS & PBwiki, as well as the best practices that will make them not only useful but practical.

Professional librarian & adjunct faculty member at the Texas Woman’s University, [Greg Hardin](#), has immersed himself in the web technologies of the day, constantly testing & tweaking what works & what doesn’t, proving that any technology can be put to practical use. Though the pure joy of playing with

technology spurs her on, [Lilly Ramin](#) has had plenty of opportunity to experience a myriad of web-based technologies in her capacity as the Virtual Reference Coordinator (UNT Libraries), from Delicious & wikis to a collaborative tool for a 24/7 consortia. She took part in outreach through Facebook & Flickr, as well as created, maintained & demonstrated various blogs to staff & students. She has taught online students through Blackboard – using Wimba Live Classroom – & created a PBwiki e-portfolio project for their professional development needs. A self-titled tech guru & wiki god, [Shaun Seibel](#) has all the hallmarks of the digital adventurer, constantly exploring new technologies &, like a kid in a sandbox, he enjoys playing with & breaking such toys. Library Specialist & web designer for the Discovery Park Library (UNT Libraries), he is constantly making use of emerging & web technologies to make the library a stronger & more transparent environment.

Top 10 Adobe Photoshop Tips

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This session will share the top ten Adobe Photoshop CS 4 (3) tips which are of use to librarians who prepare visual materials for printing, marketing & or the web environment.

[Rebecca Barham](#) is the Art Reference Librarian & Graphic Design Coordinator for the Outreach Unit of the Research & Instructional Services Department at the University of North Texas Libraries. She has been creating marketing & outreach materials using Photoshop for three or more years & has over seven years of experience with Photoshop, dye sublimation printing, graphic design course work & painting experience.

Top 10 New Tools & Gadgets

A, P, S ■■■■ I, B, T

Every day we hear about more new tools, gadgets & technologies that promise to change our world. It isn't always easy to find the gems in the mountain of junk, though. In this session we will look at 10 new technological tools & gadgets that actually fulfill their promises & have potential value to librarians.

[Jesse Ephraim](#), Youth Services Librarian at Southlake Public Library, is a former professional programmer & developer. He began doing professional Internet development in the early 90s, prior to the invention of the World Wide Web, & has continued to do so as a librarian.

Your Digitization Project: Setting It Up, Getting It on the Web & Using it to Enhance Community Participation in Your Library

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When a small, rural Texas library set up their digitization project for community participation, that project netted a dedicated & ongoing core of volunteers ... & the Internet presence sparked interest in the community worldwide. Learn about the project – organization, promotional venues, cataloging, preparation of materials, equipment, media, problems & a whole list of dos & don'ts – as well as ways you might set up your own project or expand ongoing projects. Special attention is given to interfacing the project with UNT's Portal to Texas History & to the presentation of the collection on the Internet.

[Gerald Warfield](#), Advisory Board Chairman – Boyce Ditto Public Library (Mineral Wells) & [Troy Stone](#), Archival & Digitization Committee Chairman – Boyce Ditto Public Library (Mineral Wells) speak from their own experience working with digitization projects at the Boyce Ditto Public Library & in coordinating that effort with the Portal to Texas History at the University of North Texas.